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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of claims:**

Claims 1-14 (cancelled).

Claim 15 (new): A method for treatment of diseases caused by cytokine deficiency comprising administering an effective amount of M161Ag protein (*Mycoplasma fermentans* 161 Ag), wherein the cytokine is selected from a group consisting of interleukin-1 $\beta$  (IL- $\beta$ ), tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ), interleukin-6 (IL-6), interleukin-10 (IL-10) and interleukin-12 (IL-12).

Claim 16 (new): The method according to claim 15, wherein the M161Ag protein is a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 17 (new): The method according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the M161Ag protein is acylated with fatty acid at an N-terminal position.